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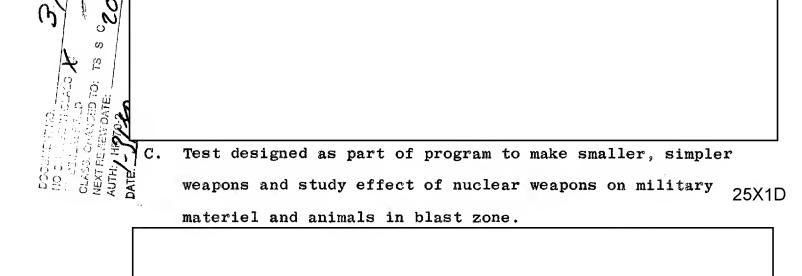
NSC BRIEFING

29 December 1960

FRENCH NUCLEAR TEST

- 1. The French announced their third nuclear test was held 0730 local 27 December at regular Reggane test center in South-Central Sahara.
 - Public announcement of test said plutonium weapon of "small" yield fired from 50-meter tower.

25X1D



1. A French Foreign Ministry spokesman says another test can be expected in a "relatively short time--perhaps a 25X1 few weeks."

II. USSR and Arab states have reacted more sharply than to first two tests.

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- A. Radio Cairo couples French test with reports France aiding Israel in nuclear weapon production, and Arab League spokesman threatens possible severance political and economic relations with France.
- III. Most African states strongly adverse.
 - A. Moroccan-sponsored African summit meeting on 3 January
 likely to provide forum for bitter denunciations of France.
 - B. Nkrumah has summoned "emergency" cabinet meeting for 30 December to consider new action against France.